# BARTON TOWNSHIP NEWAYGO COUNTY, MICHIGAN AUDIT REPORT MARCH 31, 2008

### **Auditing Procedures Report**

Reset Form	Em

Issued under Public Act 2 of 1968, as amended.

Unit Name Barton Township	County NEWAYGO	Type TOWNSHIP	MuniCode
Opinion Date May 31, 2008	Audit Submitted June 18, 2008	Fiscal Year	2008

If a local unit of government (authorities & commissions included) is operating within the boundaries of the audited entity and is NOT included in this or any other audit report, nor do they obtain a stand-alone audit, enclose the name(s), address(es), and a description(s) of the authority and/or commission.

### Place a check next to each "Yes" or non-applicable question below. Questions left unmarked should be those you wish to answer "No".

	·
X	1. Are all required component units/funds/agencies of the local unit included in the financial statements and/or disclosed in the reporting entity notes to the financial statements?
区	2. Does the local unit have a positive fund balance in all of its unreserved fund balances/unrestricted net assets?
×	3. Were the local unit's actual expenditures within the amounts authorized in the budget?
×	4. Is this unit in compliance with the Uniform Chart of Accounts issued by the Department of Treasury?
区	5. Did the local unit adopt a budget for all required funds?
X	6. Was a public hearing on the budget held in accordance with State statute?
×	7. Is the local unit in compliance with the Revised Municipal Finance Act, an order issued under the Emergency Municipal Loan Act and other guidance as issued by the Local Audit and Finance Division?
X	8. Has the local unit distributed tax revenues, that were collected for another taxing unit, timely as required by the general property tax act?
X	9. Do all deposits/investments comply with statutory requirements including the adoption of an investment policy?
⋉	10. Is the local unit free of illegal or unauthorized expenditures that came to your attention as defined in the Bulletin for Audits of Local Units of Government in Michigan, as revised (see Appendix H of Bulletin.)
⋉	11. Is the unit free of any indications of fraud or illegal acts that came to your attention during the course of audit that have not been previously communicated to the Local Audit and Finance Division? (If there is such activity, please submit a separate report under separate cover.)
_	12. Is the local unit free of repeated reported deficiencies from previous years?
×	13. Is the audit opinion unqualified?  14. If not, what type of opinion is it? NA
×	15. Has the local unit complied with GASB 34 and other generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP)?
X	16. Has the board or council approved all disbursements prior to payment as required by charter or statute?
×	17. To your knowledge, were the bank reconciliations that were reviewed performed timely?
_	18. Are there reported deficiencies? 19. If so, was it attached to the audit report?

General Fund Revenue:	\$ 123,428.00	General Fund Balance: \$ 180,352.00
General Fund Expenditure:	\$ 97,939.00	Governmental Activities Long-Term Debt (see
Major Fund Deficit Amount:	\$ 0.00	instructions):

We affirm that we are certified public accountants (CPA) licensed to practice in Michigan. We further affirm the above responses have been disclosed in the financial statements, including the notes, or in the Management Letter (Reported deviations).

CPA (First Name) Тепу	Last Name Kirkpatrick	Ten Digit Lice	nse Number 1101	018035
CPA Street Address 211 Maple St	City Big Rapids	State MI	Zip Code 49307	Telephone +1 (231) 796-3332
CPA Firm Name Terry Kirkpatrick, CPA, P.C.	Unit's Street Address 211 Maple St	City E	Big Rapids	Zip Code49307

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### TERRY KIRKPATRICK, CPA, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

211 MAPLE STREET P O BOX 817 BIG RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49307-0817 (231) 796-3332 FAX (231) 796-5554

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Township Board Barton Township, Newaygo County

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Barton Township, Newaygo County, Michigan, as of and for the year ended March 31, 2008, which collectively comprise Barton Township's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of Barton Township, Newaygo County, Michigan. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Barton Township, Newaygo County, Michigan, as of March 31, 2008, for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Barton Township, Michigan's basic financial statements. The introductory section, combining and individual non-major fund statements are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The combining and individual non-major fund financial statements have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The introductory section has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

The management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 2 through 4 and pages 15 and 16, are not a required part of the basic financial statements, but are supplementary information required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Big Rapids, Michigan

May 31, 2008

### Barton Township - Newaygo County, Michigan

### **Management's Discussion and Analysis**

### Using this Annual Report

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of Barton Township, as a whole, and present a longer-term view of the Township's finances. Fund financial statements tell how these services were financed in the short-term, as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the Township's operations in more detail than the government-wide financial statements.

### The Township as a Whole

The Township's net assets decreased slightly during the year. Primarily the reason for this was that although revenues increased, the amount spent on roads this year was significantly more than the prior year. In a condensed format, the table below shows the net assets as of the current date:

		2008
Current Assets	\$	224,524
Non-current Assets		34,642
Total assets	\$	259,166
Total Liabilities	\$	227
Net Assets		
Invested in Capital Assets		34,642
Restricted for Roads		43,945
Unrestricted		180,352
Total net assets		258,939
Total liabilites and net assets	<b>s</b> _	259,166

The following table shows the changes of the net assets as of the current date:

December December		<u>2008</u>
Program Revenues	\$	56,394
Charges for Services - Road Tax - Parks	•	17,380
- Parks		17,300
General Revenues		
Property Taxes		18,024
Licenses and Permits		2,370
State Grants		60,173
Charges for Services		750
Interest Earnings and Rent		8,131
Other Revenue		16,600
Total revenues		179,822
Program Expenses		
General Government	\$	38,919
Public Safety		26,840
Public Works		86,420
Cultural and Recreational		24,818
Other Funtions		7,362
Depreciation		776
Total expenses		185,135
Change in Net Assets	_\$	(5,313)

### The Township's Funds

Our analysis of the Township's major funds begins on page 7, following the entity-wide financial statements. The fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds, not the Township as a whole. The Township Board creates funds to help manage money for specific purposes as well as to show accountability for certain activities, such as special property tax millages. The Township's major funds include the General Fund and the Road Fund.

The General Fund pays for most of the Township's governmental services, which are partially supported by an operating tax millage and State revenue sharing. The Road Fund is financed primarily by a voted tax millage for road maintenance.

### General Fund Budgetary Highlights

Barton Township did not amend the General Fund budget during the year as various events occurred, however the Park expenditure portion of the budget should have been amended.

### Capital Asset and Debt Administration

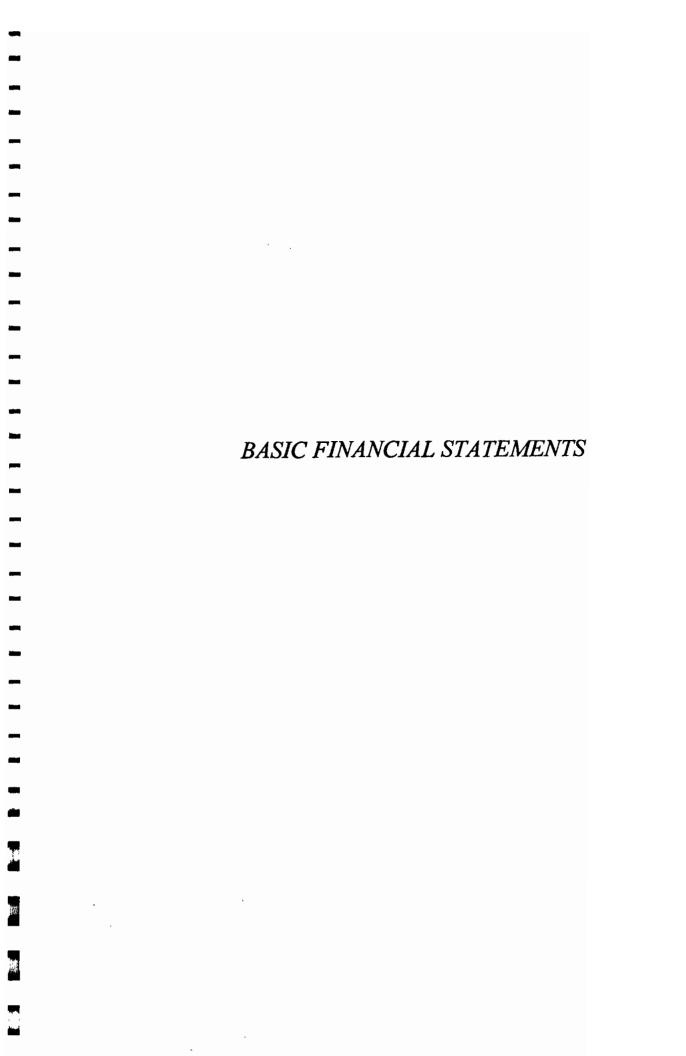
At the end of the fiscal year, the Township had \$48,260 invested in a broad range of capital assets including buildings and equipment. In addition, the Township has invested significantly in roads within the Township. These assets are not reported in the Township's financial statements because of Michigan law, which makes these roads the property of the Newaygo County Road Commission (along with the responsibility to maintain them).

### Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets and Rates

The Township budget for the next fiscal year will be similar to this past years' budget. State revenue sharing has shown declines in recent years and may be so again for the next year.

### Contacting the Township's Management

This financial report is intended to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers and investors with a general overview of the Township's finances and to show the Township's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, we welcome you to contact the Clerk's office.



### Barton Township – Newaygo County, Michigan Government Wide Statement of Net Assets March 31, 2008

		vernmental <u>Activities</u>
ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	212,310
Receivables - Other Governmental Units		8,814
- Delinquent Personal Tax		51
- Current Tax Fund		3,349
Capital Assets (Net)		34,642
Total assets	\$ 259,16	
LIABILITIES		
Payroll Tax Payable	\$	227
NET ASSETS		
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt		34,642
Unrestricted		224,297
Total net assets		258,939
Total liabilities and net assets	<u>s</u>	259,166

Barton Township – Newaygo County, Michigan Government Wide Statement of Activities For the Year Ended March 31, 2008

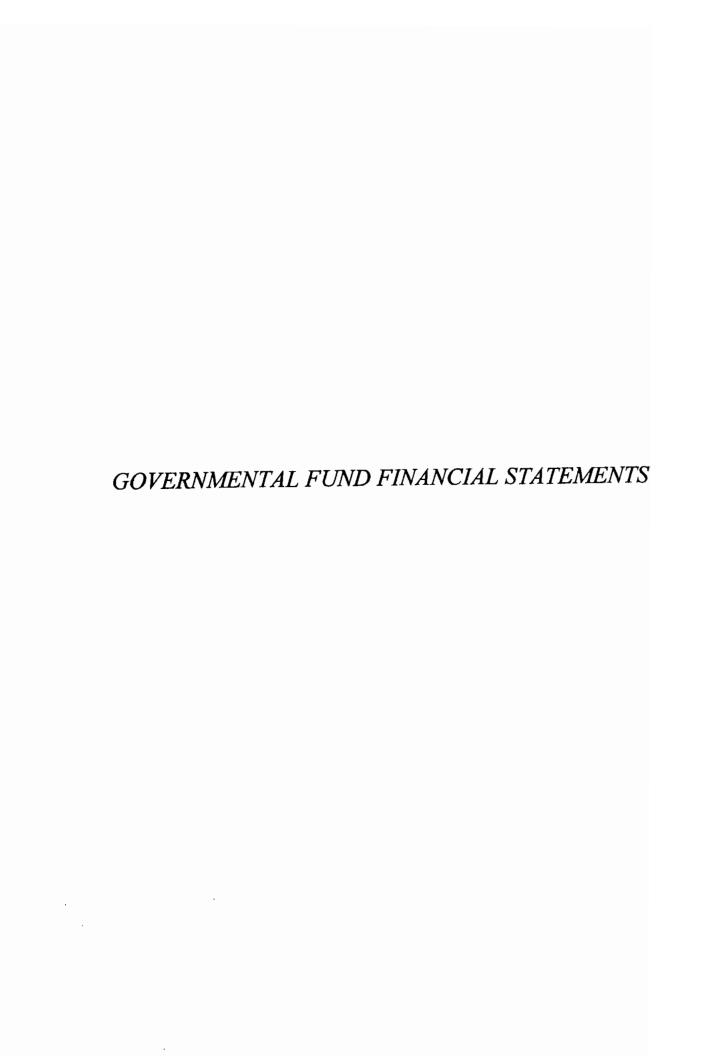
PRIMARY GOVERNMENT		Expenses	Program Revenues Charges for Ope	es N Dperating Reve Grants i	Activities Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Assets
General Government	S	38,919 \$	\$ 0	\$ 0	(38,919)
Public Safety		26,840	0	0	(26,840)
ablic Works		86,420	0		(86,420)
ultural and Recreation		24,818	17,380	. 0	(7,438)
ther Functions		7,362	0	0	(7,362)
Depreciation (unallocated)		776	0	0	(922)
Total primary government	s	185,135	17,380 \$	\$ 0	(167,755)

Property Tax, levied for general operations	
Licenses and Permits	
Charges for Services	
Interest and Rents	
Other Revenue	
Total general revenues	
Chanoe in Net Assets	
Net assets - Beginning of year	
Net assets - End of year	64

(5,313) 264,252 258,939

16,600

74,418 2,370 750 60,173 8,131



## Barton Township — Newaygo County, Michigan Governmental Fund Balance Sheet March 31, 2008

	Ċ	-	Pood	Č	Total
	<b>ў</b>	Seneral Fund	Fund	9	Covernmental Funds
Cash and Cash Equivalents	<b>∽</b>	175,293 \$	37,017	<del>69</del>	212,310
Delinquent Personal Tax Receivable		11	40		51
Due from Newaygo County		1,926	6,888		8,814
Due from Current Tax Fund		3,349	0		3,349
	↔	\$ 6/5,081	43,945	↔	224,524
LIABILITES AND FUND EQUITY					
Payroll Tax Payable	S	227 \$	0	<del>69</del>	227
Fund Balance - Unreserved and Undesignated		180,352	43,945		224,297
Total liabilities and fund equity	æ	\$ 625,081	43,945	<del>⇔</del>	224,524
Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Assets					
Total Governmental Fund Balances				69	224,297
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:					
Cost of capital assets, net of depreciation					34,642
Net assets of governmental activities				<del>6/3</del>	258,939

Barton Township — Newaygo County, Michigan Governmental Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance For the Year Ended March 31, 2008

			Total
	General	Road	Governmental
	Fund	Fund	Funds
REVENUES			
Property Tax		\$ 56,394	\$ 74,418
Licenses and Permits	2,370	0	2,370
State Grants	60,173	0	60,173
Charges for Services	18,130	0	18,130
Interest and Rents	8,131	0	8,131
Other Revenue	16,600	0	16,600
Total revenues	123,428	56,394	179,822
EXPENDITURES			
General Government	38,919	0	38,919
ublic Safety	26,840	0	26.840
ublic Works	0	86,420	86,420
Cultural and Recreation	24,818	0	24.818
Other Functions	7.362	0	7,362
Total expenditures	97,939	86,420	184,359
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER			Í
(UNDER) EXPENDITURES	7,489	(30,026)	(4,537)
Fund Balance - April 1,	154,863	73.971	228,834
Fund Balance - March 31,	\$ 180,352 \$	43,945	\$ 224,297

### Barton Township - Newaygo County, Michigan

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended March 31, 2008

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Government Funds

\$ (4,537)

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures; in the statement of activities, these costs are allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation.

Depreciation expense

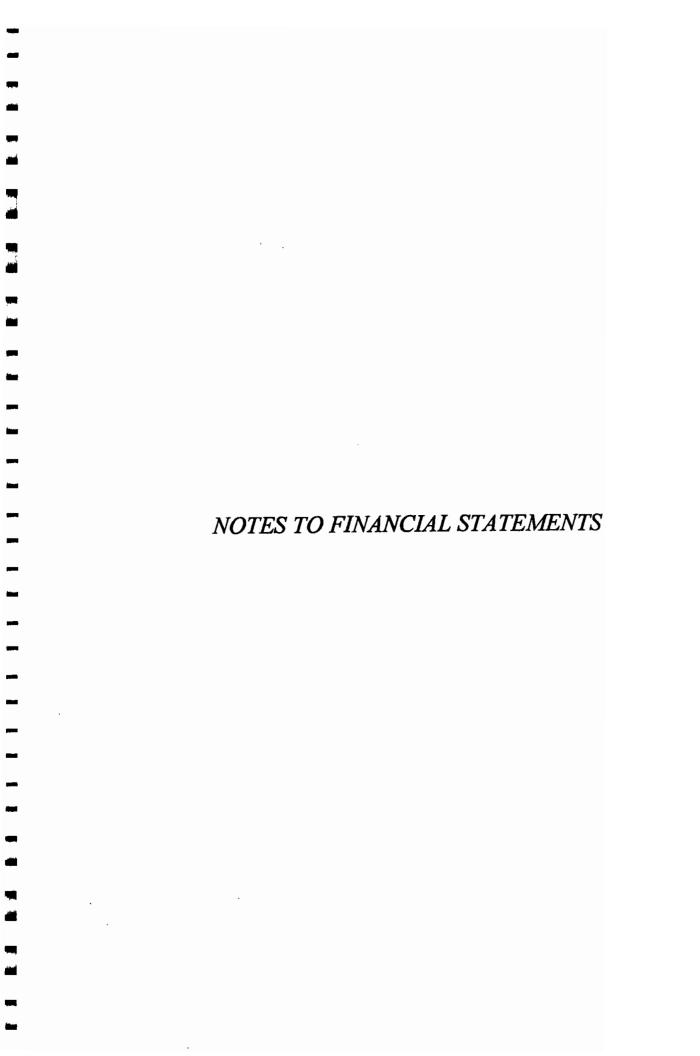
(776)

Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities

\$\_\_\_(5,313)

### Barton Township — Newaygo County, Michigan Fiduciary Fund Statement of Net Assets March 31, 2008

	Agency Fund Type Property Tax Collection Fund
ASSETS Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 3,349
LIABILITIES Due to General Fund	\$ 3,349



### NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of Barton Township conform to accounting policies generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applicable to governmental units. The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies used by Barton Township:

### **Reporting Entity**

The Township is governed by an elected, five-member, Board. The accompanying financial statements present the government and its component units; entities for which the government is considered to be financially accountable. Based on the application of the criteria, the Township does not contain any component units.

### Government - Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net assets and the statement of changes in net assets) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of inter-fund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, normally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenue includes: (1a) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment; and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenue.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

### Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting and Financial Statement Presentation

District-Wide Statements - The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenue in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Fund Based Statements - Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenue is recognized as soon as it is both measurable and available. Revenue is considered to be available if it is collected within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be "available" if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

Property taxes – Barton Township's property tax is levied on each December 1<sup>st</sup> on the taxable valuation of property located within Barton Township as of the preceding December 31<sup>st</sup>.

### Barton Township - Newaygo County, Michigan

Notes to Financial Statements - Continued

For the Year Ended March 31, 2008

Although the Barton Township 2007 ad valorem tax is levied and collectible on December 1, 2007, it is Barton Township's policy to recognize revenue from the current tax levy in the current year when the proceeds of this levy are budgeted and made "available" for the financing of operations.

The 2007 taxable valuation of Barton Township totaled approximately \$19,259,000, on which ad valorem taxes levied consisted of .8191 mills for the Township operating purposes and an additional 2.9283 mills for roads. These amounts are recognized in the respective General and Special Revenue Fund financial statements as Due from Newaygo County and/or as a tax revenue.

The Township reports the following major governmental funds:

The General Fund is the Township's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the Township, except those required to be accounted-for in another fund.

The Road Fund is used to record property tax and interest for expenditures for road improvements.

Additionally, the Township reports the following fund types:

The Township reports a Fiduciary Fund (Agency Fund). This fund accounts for taxes and special assessments collected by the Township as an agent for other taxing units. Fiduciary Fund net assets and results of operations are not included in the government-wide financial statements. Agency Funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

As a general rule, the effect of inter-fund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

### Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets or Equity

Deposits and Investments - Cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with a maturity of three months or less when acquired. Investments are stated at fair value.

Receivables and Payables – In general, outstanding balances between funds are reported as "due to/from other funds". Activity between funds that is representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year is referred to as "advances to/from other funds".

All trade and property tax receivables are shown as net of allowance for uncollectible amounts. Property taxes are levied on each December 1<sup>st</sup> and are considered delinquent on March 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year, at which time interest and penalties are assessed.

Capital Assets - Capital assets, which include property, plant and equipment assets are reported in the applicable governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of the donation.

Property, plant and equipment is depreciated using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

Building 40 Years Equipment 10 Years

### Barton Township — Newaygo County, Michigan Notes to Financial Statements - Continued For the Year Ended March 31, 2008

Fund Equity – In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

### NOTE B – STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

**Budgetary Information** – Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for all governmental units. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year end.

The budget document presents information by fund, function, activity and line items. The legal level of budgetary control adopted by the governing body is the activity level. State law requires the Township have its budget in place by April 1<sup>st</sup>. Expenditures in excess of amounts budgeted is a violation of Michigan Law. State law permits a township to amend its budgets during the year.

### NOTE C – DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Michigan Compiled Laws, Section 129.91, authorizes the local governmental unit to make deposits and invest in the accounts of federally insured banks, credit unions, and savings and loan associations, which have an office in Michigan. The Township is allowed to invest in bonds, securities and other direct obligations of the United States or any agency or instrumentality of the United States; United States government or federal agency obligations; repurchase agreements; bankers' acceptance of United States banks; commercial paper rated within the two highest classifications which mature not more than 270 days after the date of purchase; obligations of the State of Michigan or its political subdivisions which are rated as investment grade; and mutual funds composed of investment vehicles which are legal for direct investment by local units of government in Michigan.

The Township has designated one bank for the deposit of Township Funds. The investment policy adopted by the Township Board in accordance with Public Act 196 of 1997 has authorized investment in bank accounts and certificates of deposit, but not the remainder of State statutory authority as listed above.

The Township's deposits and investment policy are in accordance with statutory authority.

At year-end, the Township's deposits and investments were reported in the basic financial statements in the following categories:

Governmental Activities

Cash and cash equivalents

\$ 215,659

The bank balance of the primary government's deposits is \$221,039, of which \$100,000 is covered by federal depository insurance.

### **NOTE D – RECEIVABLES**

Receivables as of year-end for the government's individual major and non-major funds are as follows:

	<u>General</u>	K	oad Millage	<u>Total</u>
Due from County	\$ 1,926	\$	6,888	\$ 8,814
Delinquent Personal Tax	11		40	51

### NOTE E - CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity of the governmental activities for the current year was as follows:

	eginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance
Capital assets not being depreciated Land	\$ 27,000	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 27,000
Capital assets being depreciated				
Buildings	15,000	0	0	15,000
Equipment	6,260	0	0	6,260
Less Accumulated depreciation for				
Capital assets	(12,842)	(776)	0_	(13,618)
Net capital assets	\$ 35,418	\$ (776)	\$ 0	\$ 34,642

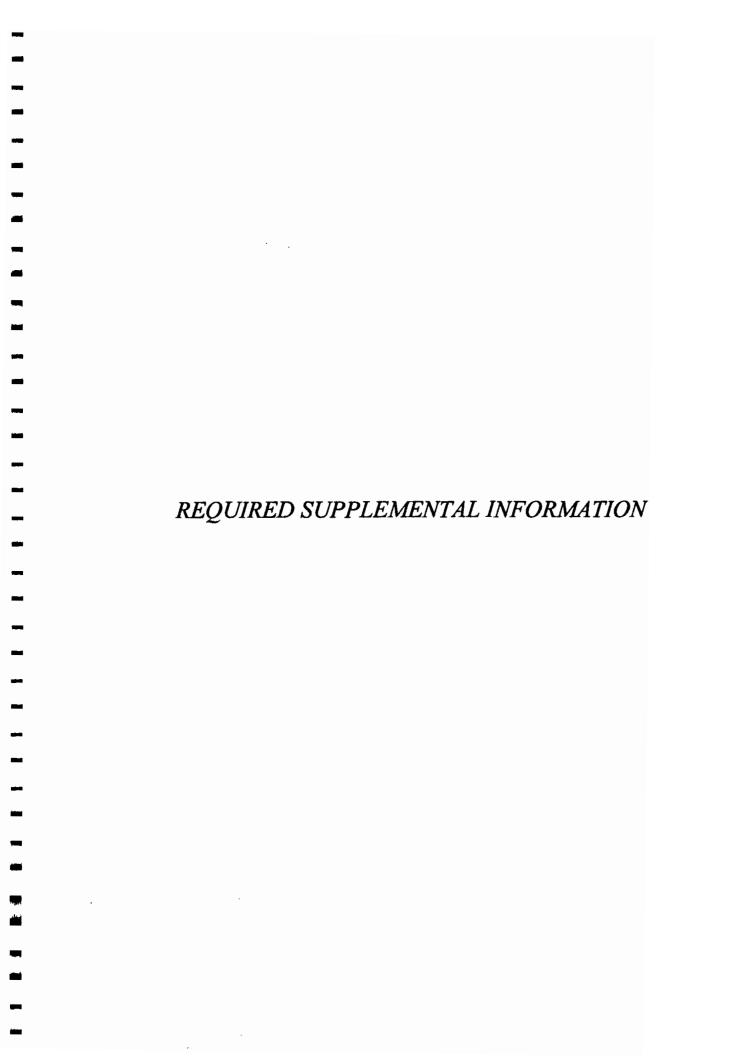
Depreciation expense was not charged to activities as the Township considers its assets to impact multiple activities and allocation is not practical.

### NOTE F- INTERFUND RECEIVABLES and PAYABLES

Receivable Fund	Payable Fund	<u>Amount</u>
General	Agency	\$ 3,349

### **NOTE G – RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Township is exposed to various risks of loss related to property loss, torts, errors and omissions and employee injuries (workers' compensation). The Township has purchased workers' compensation insurance for such claims. Settled claims relating to the workers' compensation insurance have not exceeded the amount of insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.



## Barton Township — Newaygo County, Michigan Budgetary Comparison Schedule General Fund For the Year Ended March 31, 2008

	Original <u>Budget</u>	Amended Budget	<u>Actual</u>	Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
BEGINNING OF YEAR FUND BALANCE	\$ 154,863	\$ 154,863	\$ 154,863	\$ 0
Resources (inflows)				
Property Tax	17,000	17,000	18,024	1,024
Licenses and Permits	2,700	2,700	2,370	(330)
State Grants	58,000	58,000	60,173	2,173
Charges for Services	19,164	19,164	18,130	(1,034)
Interest and Rents	3,000	3,000	8,131	5,131
Other Revenue	2,400	2,400	16,600	14,200
Amounts Available for Appropriation	257,127	257,127	278,291	21,164
Charges to Appropriations (outflows)				
General Government				
Township board	7,000	7,000	2,159	4,841
Supervisor	5,514	5,514	4,968	546
Elections	1,000	1,000	1,015	(15)
Assessor	7,000	7,000	6,580	420
Clerk	7,359	7,359	6,529	830
Board of review	2,500	2,500	1,032	1,468
Treasurer	8,521	8,521	7,360	1,161
Townhall	15,000	15,000	4,938	10,062
Cemetery	5,000	5,000	4,338	662
Public Safety				
Fire protection	19,500	19,500	18,504	996
Planning and zoning	7,784	7,784	6,260	1,524
Building and electrical inspection	3,500	3,500	2,076	1,424
Cultural and Recreation				
Parks	20,041	20,041	24,818	(4,777)
Other Functions				ĺ
Insurance and Bonds	4 500	4 500	4 700	(0.00)
Social security/ medicare tax	4,500	4,500	4,702	(202)
Social Security/ medicale tax	3,000	3,000	2,660	340
Total Charges to Appropriations	117,219	117,219	97,939	19,280
Budgetary Fund Balance - March 31,	\$ 139,908	\$_139,908	\$ 180,352	\$ 40,444

Barton Township – Newaygo County, Michigan Budgetary Comparison Schedule Road Fund For the Year Ended March 31, 2008

	Original <u>Budget</u>		Amended <u>Budget</u>				Variance with Final Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)	
BEGINNING OF YEAR FUND BALANCE Resources (inflows)	\$	73,971	\$	73,971	\$	73,971	\$	0
Property Tax		56,000		56. <u>000</u>		56,394	_	394
Amounts Available for Appropriation		129,971		129,971		130,365		394
Charges to Appropriations (outflows) Public Works								
Highways, Streets, and Bridges		90,000		90,000		86,420		3,580
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCE - March 31,	_\$_	39,971	\$	3 <u>9,971</u>	\$	43,945	\$_	3,974

### Terry Kirkpatrick, CPA, P.C.

Certified Public Accountant

211 Maple Street P O Box 817 Big Rapids, Michigan 49307-0817 (231) 796-3332 FAX (231) 796-5554

May 31, 2008

Members of Barton Township Board Newaygo County, Michigan

I have recently completed my audit of the basic financial statements of Barton Township for its year ended March 31, 2008. During this audit, I had an opportunity to observe accounting and financial procedures and many of your general management practices. As a result of my auditing procedures, there are some comments and/or recommendations I would like to present.

### **ROAD FUND**

The Clerk and Treasurer should set up a separate fund to account for the tax levy collected from the millage voted in by the Township voters for road construction and maintenance. The tax dollars raised by this levy may only be spent for those purposes described on the election ballot that the voters approved. Therefore, the Township must keep track of how these tax dollars are spent. This recommendation was also made during the fiscal year 2005-2006 audit. It is very important that this be done.

The Clerk has been doing a very good job with her accounting records for the general fund. I have no doubt that she can handle the accounting for the Road Fund as well.

### EXCESS CASH IN CURRENT TAX FUND

The balance in the checking account of the Current Tax Fund should be down to a minimum amount (normally \$100 or less) within a couple weeks after settlement day with the County Treasurer. The balance remaining at the audit date was in excess of \$3,000. This recommendation was also made during the fiscal year 2005-2006 audit.

### OTHER MATTERS

I want to thank your personnel for the courtesy and cooperation shown me by them during the audit process.

I have mailed two copies of the audit report and this letter to the Michigan Department of Treasury. You have been given the completed copy of the Form F-65 which the Clerk must sign and mail to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

If you have any questions regarding the above or the audit, please contact me.

Teny Kith CPA, P.C.